

Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

December 18, 2014

DA 14-1855

SENT VIA CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED AND E-MAIL

Mr. Gregory Paul Styles 15506 Banjo Court Woodbridge, VA 22193

Re: Debarment Notice, FCC Case No. EB-IHD-14-00013502

Dear Mr. Styles:

The Federal Communications Commission (Commission) hereby notifies you that, pursuant to Section 54.8 of its rules, you are prohibited from participating in activities associated with or relating to the schools and libraries universal service support mechanism (E-Rate program) for three years from either the date of your receipt of this Notice of Debarment or of its publication in the Federal Register, whichever is earlier in time (Debarment Date).¹

On August 26, 2014, the Commission's Enforcement Bureau sent you a Notice of Suspension and Initiation of Debarment Proceedings that was published in the Federal Register on September 22, 2014.² That *Suspension Notice* suspended you from participating in activities associated with or relating to the E-Rate program. It also described the basis for initiating debarment proceedings against you, the applicable debarment procedures, and the effect of debarment.

As discussed in the *Suspension Notice*, in March 2011 you were convicted of conspiring with Marvin Mitch Freeman to obstruct the competitive bidding process and defraud the E-Rate program of approximately \$788,000.³ As the Management Information Systems Director for Chowchilla Elementary School District (CESD) you were responsible for CESD's procurement process and, therefore were ineligible to bid on CESD's E-Rate projects.⁴ To circumvent the Commission's competitive bidding rules, you solicited Mr. Freeman to bid on CESD E-Rate contracts through his business, Twisted Head Design.⁵ Specifically, you awarded Mr. Freeman the E-Rate contracts knowing he was unqualified to perform E-Rate work and that you or a subcontractor would perform the work, and bill the Universal

¹ 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.8(e), (g); *see also id.* § 0.111 (delegating authority to the Enforcement Bureau to resolve universal service suspension and debarment proceedings).

² Letter from Theresa Z. Cavanaugh, Chief, Investigations and Hearings Division, FCC Enforcement Bureau, to Gregory Paul Styles, Notice of Suspension and Initiation of Debarment Proceedings, 29 FCC Rcd 10109 (Enf. Bur. 2014) (*Suspension Notice*); 79 Fed. Reg. 56579 (Sept. 22, 2014).

³ United States v. Gregory P. Styles, Criminal Docket No. 1:06CR00013-001, Judgment at 1 (E.D. Cal. filed March 17, 2011, amended June 15, 2011); Suspension Notice, 29 FCC Rcd at 10110–11.

⁴ Suspension Notice, 29 FCC Rcd at 10110.

⁵ *Id*; see 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.503, 54.511(a).

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Service Administrative Company for that work.⁶ Pursuant to Section 54.8(c) of the Commission's rules, your conviction of criminal conduct in connection with the E-Rate program is the basis for this debarment.⁷

In accordance with the Commission's debarment rules, you were required to file with the Commission any opposition to your suspension or its scope, or to your proposed debarment or its scope, no later than 30 calendar days from either the date of your receipt of the *Suspension Notice* or of its publication in the Federal Register, whichever date occurred first. The Commission did not receive any such opposition from you.

For the foregoing reasons, you are debarred from participating in activities associated with or related to the E-Rate program for three years from the Debarment Date. During this debarment period, you are excluded from participating in any activities associated with or related to the E-Rate program, including the receipt of funds or discounted services through the E-Rate program, or consulting with, assisting, or advising applicants or service providers regarding the E-Rate program.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey J. Gee Acting Chief Investigations and Hearings Division Enforcement Bureau

cc: Johnnay Schrieber, Universal Service Administrative Company (via e-mail)
Rashann Duvall, Universal Service Administrative Company (via e-mail)
Mark J. McKeon, United States Attorney's Office, Eastern District of California (via e-mail)

⁶ *Id*.

⁷ 47 C.F.R. § 54.8(c).

⁸ Id. § 54.8 (e)(3)–(4). Any opposition had to be filed no later than October 22, 2014.

⁹ *Id.* §§ 54.8(e)(5), (g).

¹⁰ Id. §§ 54.8(a)(1), (5), (d).